



**APPROVED 12-14-04**  
**KING COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2004**  
**EXCHANGE BUILDING CONFERENCE ROOM 6A**

**Members Present:** Howard Miller, Helen Nilon, James Nobles, Eleanor Owen, Ron Sterling, Clifford Thurston, Gwendolyn Williams

**Members Absent:** Joshua Freed (unexcused), Melody Cecilia James (excused)

**Guests Present:** Sherry Axson (Parent Coordinator-SKC); Linda Brown (KCASAAB); Cathy Callahan- Clem (Parent Coordinator-SMH East); Frank Jose (NAMI-Greater Seattle); Alberto Gallego (board nominee); Ralph Lucie (Parent – Renton, WA); Allan Panitch (board nominee); Sue Phillips (Parent – Renton, WA); Pam Pratt (private citizen); Iris Quick (Parent); Silvia Singer (VCCC); Eugene Wan (board nominee); Janice Whittier (Parent)

**Staff Present:** Catherine Follett, Lisbeth Gilbert, Stephanie Lane, Rhoda Naguit, Jean Robertson, Amnon Shoenfeld

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## **I. WELCOME & INTRODUCTION**

Board Chair Ron Sterling convened the meeting at 4:34 p.m. and asked everyone to introduce him/herself.

## **II. MINUTES**

A minor correction was noted to include Allan Panitch on the list of attendees at the October 12, 2004 Board meeting.

Howard Miller made a motion that was seconded by Helen Nilon to approve the October 12, 2004 meeting minutes as corrected. The motion passed unanimously.

## **III. PRESENTATION**

Catherine Follett, Project Director of Children and Families in Common, gave an overview of the grant program. The program is designed to implement or improve family involvement, coordination, collaboration, cultural competency, and the utilization of natural supports in the system of care. Funding for this federal grant is ending in August of 2005. As part of the legacy of the grant, they have developed a Children's Mental Health Plan (CMHP). The CMHP describes how the Mental Health, Chemical Abuse and Dependency Services Division will carry forth and implement family involvement, collaboration, and coordination at every level of the

system of care. Included in this plan is the emphasis of families helping other families and the importance of this aspect of the program.

Catherine introduced the Parent Coordinators of the Networks of Support present at the meeting. A brief PowerPoint presentation containing an overview of the Networks of Support program was shown. The presentation was aimed to educate the board on how families provide support and resources for themselves and for each other and how the board could continue to support and advocate for family involvement in our system of care.

Immediately following the video presentation, Parent Coordinators took turns describing the benefits derived from belonging to the Networks of Support. They shared their first hand experiences with the public mental health system. They acknowledged people who have given them support. They also expressed their desire to be heard and to be a part of the decision making process on what works for them.

There are four groups of Parent Coordinators under the Networks of Support: South King County headed by Sherry Axson; East King County headed by Cathy Callahan-Clem; Metro/Seattle King County headed by Gina Maurceri; and Spanish Speaking Families headed by Celia Arauz, who was unable to attend due to conflict in schedule. For more information about the Network of Supports, visit their website at [www.skcrsg.org](http://www.skcrsg.org).

What are the next steps after this presentation? The group recommended keeping the board informed particularly about the network's priorities. They also expressed interest to have representation on the King County Mental Health Advisory Board. The board informed the group that they are welcome to apply for board membership.

The following questions were asked by board members following the presentation:

Q: Identify a single tool that helped a great deal in treating children with mental illness.

A: The wraparound services have provided resources and support connections with other families which helped them to become more resilient. The CAST training equipped parents on how child/youth serving systems work, and building family/professional partnerships. Parents also noted the importance of professionals working together with parents as equals for the child/youth and family needs.

Q: Is this program open to all?

A: Yes.

Q: With funding running out in 2005, how do you expect to continue this program?

A: The group is working on the sustainability of the program. Seattle Mental Health has offered a space in their facility to help continue this program.

#### IV. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

##### A. Board Membership Update

At the Executive Session held prior to the regular board meeting today, the board approved the nominations of Allan Panitch and Eugene Wan to the King County Mental Health Advisory Board. Their nominations will be forwarded to the Department Director's office for review and approval before it will go to the King County Executive's office for action and to the King County Council for confirmation.

Shauna Cheney has tendered her resignation from the board due to current tight schedule. She expressed her desire to reapply, if and when her schedule permits.

Board Chair Sterling plans to formulate a biographic information template so that each board member can submit biographical material so that all board members will have important information about each other.

#### V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### A. Legislative Advocacy and Public Affairs Committee

At the November 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Legislative Advocacy and Public Affairs Committee, members set out legislative priorities. MHCADS Division Director Amnon Shoenfeld, distributed draft copies of the legislative priorities for mental health. Eleanor suggested inserting "timely" between *assure access* under the second priority issue. It should read "Assure **timely** access to involuntary evaluation and treatment."

Eleanor Owen made a motion, which was seconded by Howard Miller to approve the 2005 Legislative Priorities for Mental Health as revised. The motion was approved unanimously.

Amnon asked the board not to distribute the document because it is still in draft form.

The Joint Legislative Forum this year will be held on December 9<sup>th</sup> at St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral at 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

This year's Legislative Forum will focus more on the legislators. It will feature two legislators - State Representatives Eilene Cody and Ruth Kagi who will make

presentations on the Mental Health Task Force and substance abuse treatment on-demand.

There was a discussion on time allocation for question and answer (Q & A) portion. Logistically, the Q & A portion has to be limited to two or three questions because the time frame of the forum will be shorter this year. Howard Miller recommended putting out a question box where people can drop in their written questions and have someone from the committee go over the questions to group them in two to three general questions.

#### **B. Nominations Update**

Helen Nilon reported that Nancy Dow-Witherbee, a board applicant, asked to be excused at today's board meeting. She intends to attend the December 14, 2004 board meeting.

#### **C. Quality Council**

At the next meeting, members of the Quality Council will review the First Quarter Mental Health Report Card for 2004, the Management Indicator reports for the time period covered during the quarterly reports, Criminal Justice Initiative Project information and other available statistical data, and Fair Hearing Report. These documents have been sent in advance to QC members for review before the meeting.

#### **D. Recovery Initiatives Committee**

Barry Antos, Senior Vice President of Behavioral Health Services, Human Services Division - Pioneer Industries, addressed the Recovery Initiatives Committee members at their October 26, 2004 meeting. The focus of the group was the re-entry of people in the workforce. He stressed the importance for employees to set an expectation of taking responsibilities and set a goal for employment. At the next meeting, MHCADSD staff will discuss the King County resolution on recovery ordinance. King County RSN is currently working with Council staff in revising the language of the Recovery Ordinance. Jean Robertson will present the draft revised ordinance language to the Recovery Initiatives Committee for feedback and input as soon as the work is completed.

#### **E. Goals & Priorities Committee**

The committee passed a motion that requested Ron Sterling to contact King County Council Chair Kathy 's office to set up a meeting with Ms. Lambert for the purpose of meeting Ms. Lambert so that she may get to know Executive Committee members and begin a legacy of a more direct communication with whoever is the chair of the King County Council Law, Justice and Human Services Committee. The committee

is finalizing recommendations to be forwarded to the full board regarding goals and priorities for 2005.

## **VII. STAFF REPORT**

Jean Robertson distributed copies of the budget priority scorecard from the Legislative Task Force. Fourteen RSNs participated in this extremely difficult exercise of developing mutual budget priorities. Jean noted that the scorecard does not exactly reflect the order of priorities for King County. Under Service Improvement Options, employment is a higher priority for King County. Eight groups are asked to do this exercise to be submitted to the Task Force, who in turn will use these for developing their recommendations to the legislature.

The board is welcome to conduct their own exercise of choice of priorities. The document is available on the Internet. Eleanor Owen made a motion which was seconded by Helen Nilon for each board member to do a budget priority scorecard and submit it to Board Chair Ron Sterling. The motion was put to vote – four “aye” and one “nay.”

The State Mental Health Division has not made a firm commitment to submit an early filing for emergency budget appropriation. A supplemental budget request will be made and Jean asked the board to lend support for this action.

## **VIII. LIAISON REPORT**

Due to time constraint, the board members were asked to email their Liaison Report to Rhoda Naguit.

## **IX. ANNOUNCEMENT**

Frank Jose, Executive Director of NAMI-Greater Seattle, announced that scholarships for local, state, or national trainings, classes or conferences dealing with mental health issues are available from the King County Consumer Training Fund. For more information or to inquire about the scholarship, contact NAMI Greater Seattle at (206) 783-9264.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Prepared by:

Attested by:

Rhoda A. Naguit  
Recording Secretary

Ron Sterling  
Board Chair